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(12) **United States Patent**  
**Payne et al.**

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(54) **ELECTROSURGICAL INSTRUMENT  
INCLUDING NESTED KNIFE ASSEMBLY**

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(71) Applicant: **Covidien LP**, Mansfield, MA (US)

(72) Inventors: **Kellie F. Payne**, Rock Hill, SC (US);  
**William H. Nau, Jr.**, Longmont, CO (US)

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(73) Assignee: **COVIDIEN LP**, Mansfield, MA (US)

(\*) Notice: Subject to any disclaimer, the term of this patent is extended or adjusted under 35 U.S.C. 154(b) by 760 days.

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(21) Appl. No.: **13/903,223**

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**Related U.S. Application Data**

*Primary Examiner* — Michael Peffley

*Assistant Examiner* — Khadijeh Vahdat

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(57)

**ABSTRACT**

(51) **Int. Cl.**  
**A61B 18/14** (2006.01)

An electrosurgical instrument includes a handle assembly and an end effector assembly operatively coupled with the handle assembly. The end effector assembly includes a first jaw member including a first jaw housing and a first electrically conductive surface, a second jaw member including a second jaw housing and a second electrically conductive surface, and a knife assembly. The knife assembly includes a base member translatablely disposed in the first jaw housing, a pivot portion coupled with the base portion, and a blade pivotally associated with the pivot portion. The knife assembly is transitionable between a retracted state in which the blade is disposed within the first jaw housing and an extended state in which the blade is disposed at least partially within the second jaw housing.

(52) **U.S. Cl.**  
CPC .. **A61B 18/1445** (2013.01); **A61B 2018/1455** (2013.01)

(58) **Field of Classification Search**  
CPC ..... A61B 18/1445; A61B 2018/1455; A61B 18/14; A61B 18/1442; A61B 18/1448; A61B 18/1455; A61B 18/18  
USPC ..... 606/51, 52, 169, 205–207  
See application file for complete search history.

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**3 Claims, 6 Drawing Sheets**

